

# Leavenworth, Kansas, Parks & Community Activities Advisory Board

## Minutes of Monday, September 9, 2024

**Meeting called to order** – Members in attendance Dave Davis, Kara McDaniel, Marianne Tennant, Shelly Cannon, Steve Zamora, and Chuck Johnson.

**Approval of Minutes** – August minutes were approved.

### Staff Reports

**Nancy Baker** – Aquatics and Special Events Coordinator

- Wollman Aquatic Center 2024 season is over. Labor Day was our last day. It was a good summer with great staff. We have started to drain the pool and get ready to winterize.
- Doggie Splash was on Saturday, September 7. We had about 120 dogs this year. We also collected \$70 in cash donations. Kansas Country Store donated bags of dog treats to hand out to patrons. We also had a new business owner come to promote his new business “Poo Squad”. He scoops the poop so you don’t have to. He showed up around 1:30 p.m. and volunteered his time and services to refresh the center before the final splash session at 2 p.m. He stayed to help clean up afterwards. He says he will be back next year to spend the day with us. Leavenworth Times will be posting pictures in the paper of our event.
- Community Center Pool – Fall group swim lessons will start November 2. Private lessons started last weekend.

**Tammy Metzgar** – Riverfront Community Center Manager

- Very busy. Upcoming events include:
  - Terry Booker Dinners
  - Two weddings
  - Birthdays and baby showers
  - Buffalo Bill Wild West Fundraiser on October 5
  - Camp Leavenworth on September 20 and 21
  - Leavenworth Awareness Walk
  - Lansing Education Foundation has a gala
  - And more!

**Carol Varner** – Vice-President, River City Community Players

- Rehearsing *Disney’s Little Mermaid, Jr.* Show is the same weekend as Camp Leavenworth.
- Auditions for our next play, *Agatha Christie’s Murder on the Orient Express*, will be tonight and tomorrow night.
- Almost done with interviews for directors for 2025 season.

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### David Sommerla – Parks Superintendent

- Mowing, watering, trees, brush removal, etc.
- Have soccer fields ready, their games start September 14
- Preparing for our ribbon cutting at Cody Park for tomorrow (9/10)

### Tabor Medill – Recreation Program Supervisor

- Registration for basketball begins soon.
- Pickleball is huge in Leavenworth. We have partnered with All Out Pickleball to run a league starting Wednesday night (9/11) at 6 p.m. See details at [www.alloutpickleball.com](http://www.alloutpickleball.com). Popcorn Pitstop is sponsoring the league for this season with three levels of prizes for winners of the league. We have 11 of 12 people signed up for our first night of play.

### Old Business

- **Project Updates** - provided by Steve Grant and Brian Bailey
  - **Parks and Recreation Administrative Office Move** – Met with Sands Construction again. Hoping to have a finalized contract by the end of the month so we can take it to the City Commission for final approval.
  - **Cody Park Sports Court Replacement** – Project is completed. Grand opening at 9 a.m. on Tuesday morning (9/10). Coffee and donuts, a small presentation and ribbon cutting.
  - **RFCC Basement Lighting** – Project completed. Laven Electric did a good job. The downstairs is a lot brighter. LED lights were installed throughout.
  - **RFCC Gym Door Replacement** – Overhead Door is the vendor. No change since last meeting.
  - **Skatepark Expansion** – Currently under construction. Hole has been dug and steel is in the hole. Drainage has been installed. Expect a concrete pour later this week. Sands Construction is going a great job with it.
- **City Commission Meetings** –
  - **August 13**, Second Consideration for Special Use Permit to zone Abeles Field for a transfer station – voted down.
  - **August 27**, Revenue Neutral Rate and 2025 Budget Approval – vote to exceed passed 4 to 1.

### New Business – Upcoming Events

- **Camp Leavenworth, Friday & Saturday, September 20-21** – Go to [campleavenworth.com](http://campleavenworth.com) to sign up as a volunteer or to see the full schedule of events and concerts.
- **Mother-Son Superhero Dance, Sunday, October 6 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** – Registration is open now. Dance for moms and sons age 9 and under.
- **Trunk-or-Treat, Saturday, October 19 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.** Event will take place at Sportsfield. Two registrations open now. One to be a volunteer vendor, currently half-full (32 of 65) of vendors including local businesses, politicians, and charitable organizations. Second is to

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let us know people are coming so we can gauge how much candy to buy. Volunteer vendors can setup starting at 3 p.m. Last year we had over 800 children come through the trunk yard. Dave Davis is available to help check people in on the day of the event.

- **Holiday Market, Saturday, November 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** – Open for registration. Currently have 38 of 62 spots reserved. We have sold out of spots for this event for the last several years. This event is held on the basement level of the Riverfront Community Center (track, activity room, and gymnasium).
- **Mayor’s Holiday Tree Lighting and Holiday Parade, Friday, November 22 starting at 4 p.m.** – The holiday market starts at 4 p.m., the parade is at 5:30 p.m. The tree lighting is immediately after the parade ends.
- **Breakfast with Santa, Saturday, December 7 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.** – Held in the Riverview Room at the community center. Tickets are available now, also available the day of the event. Chris Cakes still does the pancakes. A couple of local dance studios performing. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be here.

**Board Input - Marianne Tennant** – Do we have any follow up on the Sons of the American Revolution request to plant trees? Brian Bailey said Steve Grant followed up via email, but Brian does not know if we have heard anything back. Last he heard, we have not heard anything.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.**

**Next meeting** – Monday, October 14, 2024